IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION-YOUNGSTOWN

VIOLA AND LOUIS SAULSBERRY,)
Plaintiffs,)) Case No. 4:12-cv-01524
v.)
) Jury Trial Demanded
ARS NATIONAL SERVICES, INC.,)
Defendant.)
)

NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an action brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
- 3. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), where the acts and transactions giving rise to Plaintiffs' action occurred in this district, where Plaintiffs reside in this district, and/or where Defendant transacts business in this district.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiffs, Viola and Louis Saulsberry ("Plaintiffs"), are natural persons who at all relevant times resided in the State of Ohio, County of Mahoning, and City of Youngstown.
 - 5. Plaintiffs are "consumers" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 6. Defendant, ARS National Services, Inc. ("Defendant") is an entity who at all relevant times was engaged, by use of the mails and telephone, in the business of attempting to collect a "debt" from Plaintiffs, as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
 - 7. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Plaintiffs are natural persons obligated, or allegedly obligated, to pay a debt owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant.
- 9. Plaintiffs' obligation, or alleged obligation, owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant, arises from a transaction in which the money, property, insurance, or services that are the subject of the transaction were incurred primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. Plaintiffs incurred the obligation, or alleged obligation, owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant.
- 10. Defendant uses instrumentalities of interstate commerce or the mails in a business the principal purpose of which is the collection of any debts, and/or regularly

collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due another.

- 11. In connection with collection of an alleged debt in default, Defendant sent Plaintiff Viola Saulsberry written communication dated February 8, 2012, to Plaintiff's place of employment. (See Correspondence attached here to as Exhibit A).
- 12. In its February 8, 2012 letter, Defendant failed to notify Plaintiffs that the communication was from a debt collector.
- 13. In connection with collection of an alleged debt in default, Defendant called Plaintiffs' residential telephone on February 25, 2012 at 2:33 P.M., and at such time, left the following voicemail message:

This message is intended for Viola and Louis Saulsberry. This is Cindy Gordon. Would you return my call at 888-319-0986. My extension is 1060. When returning my call, please reference XXXX0685. Thank you.

- 14. In its voicemail message of February 25, 2012, Defendant failed to notify Plaintiffs that the communication was from a debt collector.
- 15. In its voicemail message of February 25, 2012, Defendant failed to disclose Defendant's true corporate or business name to Plaintiffs.
- 16. In connection with collection of an alleged debt in default, Defendant called Plaintiffs' residential telephone on March 1, 2012 at 2:49 P.M., and at such time, left the following voicemail message:

This message is intended for Louis and Viola Saulsberry. This is Cindy Gordon. Please return my call at 888-319-0986. My extension is 1060. When calling back, please reference XXXX0685. Thank you.

- 17. In its voicemail message of March 1, 2012, Defendant failed to notify Plaintiffs that the communication was from a debt collector.
- 18. In its voicemail message of March 1, 2012, Defendant failed to disclose Defendant's true corporate or business name to Plaintiffs.
- 19. Defendant's actions constitute conduct highly offensive to a reasonable person.

COUNT I VIOLATION OF 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(6)

- 20. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege each and every allegation contained above.
- 21. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(6) by placing telephone calls without meaningfully disclosing the caller's identity.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief and judgment, as follows:

- a) Adjudging that Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(6);
- b) Awarding Plaintiffs statutory damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k, in the amount of \$1,000.00;
- c) Awarding Plaintiffs actual damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k;
- d) Awarding Plaintiffs reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action;

- e) Awarding Plaintiffs any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under the law;
- f) Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

COUNT II VIOLATION OF 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(11)

- 22. Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege each and every allegation contained above.
- 23. Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(11) by failing to notify Plaintiffs during each collection contact that the communication was from a debt collector.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

- a) Adjudging that Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(11);
- b) Awarding Plaintiffs statutory damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k, in the amount of \$1,000.00;
- c) Awarding Plaintiffs actual damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k;
- d) Awarding Plaintiffs reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action;
- e) Awarding Plaintiffs any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under the law;
- f) Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY

24. Plaintiffs are entitled to and hereby demand a trial by jury.

This 14th day of June, 2012.

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